

TWEEN FIRST ELECTION AND DEATH: he apparently gave land in Frederick County (later became part of Washington County) to his son, William, Jr. **WEALTH AT DEATH.** **DIED:** in May 1792 in Washington County. **PERSONAL PROPERTY:** TEV, at least £603.7.0 current money (including 5 slaves and 23 books). **LAND:** 2 houses and 2 lots in Elizabeth Town (later called Hagerstown), Washington County; at least 1,250 acres in Kentucky; 1,000 acres in Virginia, and additional land in North Carolina.

**BAKER, FRANCIS (?-?).** **BORN:** probably in Cecil County, of age by 1760. **NATIVE:** third or fourth generation. **RESIDED:** in Cecil County; Talbot County, 1760; Harford County, 1786 until at least 1788; possibly in Pennsylvania, with his son Henry. **FAMILY BACKGROUND.** **FATHER:** *Henry Baker* (ca. 1710–1768). **MOTHER:** Elizabeth. **UNCLE:** *Nathan Baker* (?-?). **BROTHERS:** *Jeremiah Baker* (ca. 1748–1813); Henry (?–1780); Jethro (?–1777); and Samuel (?–by 1766). **MARRIED** by 1765 Frances, an only child, daughter of Harris Clayland (?–by 1740/41), of Talbot County, a planter, and wife Elizabeth; stepdaughter of Joseph Atkinson, a Quaker. **CHILDREN.** **SONS:** Samuel (by 1765–1786), died without progeny; Henry Clayland (by 1768–?), of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania by 1788, a lieutenant in the Maryland Line, married by 1790 Sarah. Possibly other children. **PRIVATE CAREER.** **EDUCATION:** literate. **SOCIAL STATUS AND ACTIVITIES:** Gent., 1765. **OCCUPATIONAL PROFILE:** planter, 1760; merchant, 1767; farmer, 1774; owned a schooner and seines used for trawling, 1771. **PUBLIC CAREER.** **LEGISLATIVE SERVICE:** Conventions, Talbot County, 4th, 1775, 5th, 1775, 6th, 1775 (elected, but did not attend; discharged on December 11, 1775, for a “breach of the continental association”). **ADDITIONAL COMMENTS:** In 1775 Baker was discharged from the conventions for violating the nonimportation agreements. He had loaned an old fishing net for trawling to a British captain in 1773. The captain promised to bring Baker a new seine from England on his next voyage. By June 1775 when the captain brought Baker his net, there was a ban on the importation of all British goods. Baker petitioned the Talbot County Committee of Observation for permission to keep the net, but the decision was unanimous that he send it back. Baker delivered the net to the ship, but made arrangements to reclaim it later that night. He was caught in this act to which he ultimately confessed, claiming he was “tempted by Poverty, and not by Will.” Though his name was not published as an enemy, he was barred from

holding any future office of trust. By June 1776, however, this part of the sentence had been rescinded. **LOCAL OFFICE:** Committee of Observation, Talbot County, elected 1775. **MILITARY SERVICE:** 1st lieutenant of a company of militia in Talbot County belonging to the Fourth Militia, commissioned May 1776, resigned August 1776; buyer of cattle, salt, barreled beef and pork for the Continental Army, 1778; one of fifty-six persons drafted to raise two battalions of militia to reinforce the American Army, Talbot County, 1781. **WEALTH DURING LIFETIME.** **PERSONAL PROPERTY:** 12 slaves, 1 bay schooner, livestock, 1771 (mortgaged in 1771; released from mortgage, 1774); 9 slaves, 1776; assessed value £915.0.0, including 16 slaves and 12 oz. plate, 1783; 21 slaves, livestock, farm utensils, household furniture, and other property mortgaged in 1788 and sold in 1789 for £1,000 current money. **LAND AT FIRST ELECTION:** 569 acres in Talbot County (500 acres through his first marriage, 69 acres by purchase, all of which was mortgaged in 1771, but reclaimed by 1774). **SIGNIFICANT CHANGES IN LAND BETWEEN FIRST ELECTION AND DEATH:** gave the 500 acres in Talbot County acquired through his marriage to his son Henry by deed of gift, 1781; purchased 213 acres in Cecil County and patented 34 acres in Talbot County, by 1783; along with his sons he sold the 500-acre tract plus 120 additional acres in Talbot County, 1785; purchased 580 acres in Harford County and 555 acres in York County, Pennsylvania, 1785–1786; mortgaged 1,349 acres in Cecil and Harford counties, and York County, Pennsylvania, being most if not all his lands, 1788; gave his son Henry power of attorney and apparently defaulted on his mortgage payments, 1789; *Thomas Sim Lee* (1745–1819), from whom Baker had purchased his Harford County land on bond, was at that time making arrangements to take possession of Baker's land in York County, Pennsylvania, in order to secure payment. Continuously in and out of debt, he bought land only by mortgaging that which he already owned. At his death Baker probably had nothing left after all the mortgage payments were met by his son.

**BAKER, HENRY** (ca. 1710–1768). **BORN:** ca. 1710, probably in Cecil County. **NATIVE:** at least second generation. **RESIDED:** at “New Cormough” plantation, Cecil County. **FAMILY BACKGROUND.** **FATHER:** Nathan Baker (?–1729), of Cecil County, merchant; son of Henry Baker (?–ca. 1700), a Quaker, who immigrated in 1684 to Bucks County, Pennsylvania, from Lancashire, England, became a large landowner and was a burgess for